



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

W.-Q. Zhou and S. Agrawal

Art Unit:

1635

Serial No.:

09/283,431

Examiner:

K. Lacourciere

Filing Date:

April 1, 1999

RECEIVED

Title:

Mixed Backbone Oligonucleotides Containing POPS

Blocks to Obtain Reduced Phosphorothioate Content

JAN 03 2001

Box AF

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

12/27/00

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

Dear Commissioner for Patents:

- Enclosed herewith for appropriate action are the following items:
 - 1. Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, including a Three-Month Petition for Extension of Time;
 - 2. Notice of Appeal; and
 - 3. Return postcard.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this response, other than the Three-Month Petition for Extension of Time and the Notice of Appeal. However, please charge any payments due or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne A. Keown, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 33,923

December 27, 2000

HALE AND DORR LLP

60 State Street Boston, MA 02109

Tel: (617) 526-6250 Fax: (617) 526-5000